

THE
Famous History
O F
FRYER BACON.

Containing the wonderfull things that he did in his
Live, and the manner of his death ; with the Lives and
Deaths of the two Conjurers, Bungy and Vandermaest.

Very pleasant and delightful to be read.

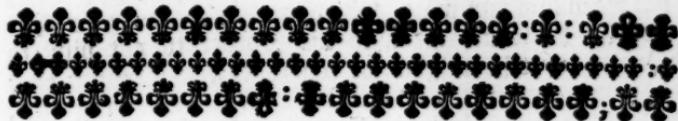
Wiltschap doet het leven verlaadden.



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T H E
Famous History
of Fryer Bacon.

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in his Life; Also the manner of his Death,
with the Lives and Deaths of the two
Conjurers, Bungey and Vandermaſt.

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Of the Parents and Birth of Fryer Bacon, and how
he addicted himself to Learning.

HE was born, by most mens opinions, in
the west part of England, and was son
to a wealthy Farmer, who put him to
School to the Parson of the Town
where he was born; not with intent
that he should turn Fryer (as he did) but
to get so much understanding, that he might manage the
better that wealth he was to leabe him. But young
Bacon

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Bacon took his learning so fast, that the Priest could not teach him any more, which made him desire his Master that he would speak to his Father to put him to Oxford, that he might not lose that little learning that he had gained: his Master was very willing so to do, and one day meeting his Father, told him, that he had received a great blessing of God, in that he had given him so wise and hopefull a Childe, as his Son Roger Bacon was (for so was he named) and wished him withdrawall to do his duty, and so to bring up his Childe, that he might shew his thankfulness to God, which could not better be done than in making of him a Scholar, for he sound by his sodain taking of his learning, that he was a Childe likely to prove a very great Clerk: hereat old Bacon was not well pleased (for he desired to bring him up to Plough and to the Cart, as he himself was brought) yet he for reverence sake to the Priest, shewed not his anger, but kindly thanked him for his pains and Counsell, yet desiring him not to speak any more concerning that matter; for he knew best what best pleased himself, and that he would not do: so brake they off their talk, and parted.

So soon as the old man came home, he called to his Son for his Books, which when he had, he locked them up, and gave the Boy a Cart-whip in the place of them, saying to him, Boy, I will have you no Priest, you shall not be better learned than I: you can tell now by the Almanack when it is best sowing Wheat, when Barley, Pease, and Beans; and when the best Libbing is, when to sell Grain and Cattel, I will teach thee: for I have all Faires and Markets as perfect in my memory, as Sir John our Priest has masse without Book: take me this whip, I will teach thee the use of it, it will be more profitable to thee than this harsh Latine: make no reply but follow my counsell, or else by the Mals thou shalt feel the smart hand of my anger. Young Bacon thought this but hard dealing, yet would he not reply, but within six or eight dayes

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dayes he gabe his Father the slip, and went to a Cleyster some twenty miles off, where he was entertained, and so continued his learning, and in small time came to be so famous, that he was sent for to the University of Oxford, where he long time studied, and grew so excellent in the secrets of Art and Nature, that not England only, but all Christendome admired him.

How the King sent for Fryer Bacon, and of the wonderfull things he shewed the King and Queen.

The King being in Oxfordshire at a Noblemans house was very desirous to see this famous Fryer, soz he had heard many times of the wondrouſ things that he had done by his Art: therefore he sent one for him to desire him to come to the Court. Fryer Bacon kindly thanked the King by the Messenger, and said, that he was at the Kings service, and would sodainly attend him: but Sir, saith he (to the Gentleman) I pray make you haste, or else I shall be two hours before you at the Court. For all your learning (answered the Gentleman) I can hardly beliebe this, for Schollars, old men and travellers, may lye by authority. To strengthen your belief (said Fryer Bacon) I could presently shew you the last wench that you lay withall, but I will not at this time. One is as true as the other (said the Gentleman) and I would laugh to see either. You shall see them both within these four hours, quoth the Fryer, and therefore make what haste you can. I will prevent that by my speed (said the Gentleman) and with that rid his way; but he rode out of his way, as it shoud seem; for he had but five miles to ride, and yet he was better than three hours a riding them, so that Fryer Bacon by his Art was with the King before he came.

The King kindly welcomed him, and said that he
long

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long time had desired to see him: for he had as yet not heard of his life. Fryer Bacon answered him, that fame had belied him, and given him that report that his poor studies had never deserved, for he believed that Art had many Sones more excellent than himself was. The King commended him for his modestie, and told him, that nothing did become a wise man lesser than boasting: But yet withall he requested him now to be no niggard of his knowledge, but to shew his Queen and him some of his skill. I were worthy of neither Art nor knowledge (quoth Fryer Bacon) should I deny your Majestie this small request: I pray seat your selbes and you shall see presently what my poor skill can performe: the King, Queen, and Nobles sat them all down. They habing so done, the Fryer wabed his wand, and presently was heard such excellent musick that they were all amazed, for they all said they had never heard the like. This is, said the Fryer, to delight the sense of hearing. I will delight all your other senses ere you depart hence, so wabing his wand again, there was lowder musick heard, and presently five dancers entred, the first like a Court-Laundress, the second like a Footman, the third like a Usurer, the fourth like a Prodigall, the fift like a Fool: these did divers excellent changes, so that they gabe content to all the beholders, and habing done their Dance, they all banished away in their order as they came in. Thus feasted he two of their senses. Then wabed he his wand again, and there was another kinde of musick heard, and whilste it was a playing there was sodainly before them a table richly cohered with all sortes of delicates: then destred he the King and Queen to taste of some certain rare fruits that were on the Table, which they and the Nobles there present did, and were very highly pleased with the taste: they being satisfied, all banished away on the sodain: then wabed he his wand again, and sodainly there was such a smell, as if all the rich perfumes in the whole world had been there prepared in the best manner that Art could

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could set them out: whilist he feasted thus their smelling, he waved his wand again, and there came divers Nations in sundry habits (as Russians, Polanders, Indians, Armenians) all bringing sundry kinds of Furses, such as their Countries peelded: all which they presented to the King and Queen: these Furses were so soft in the touch that they highly pleased all those that handled them; then after some odde fantastick Dances (after their Country manner) they banished away: then asked Fryer Bacon the Kings Majestie, if that he desired any more of his skill? The King answered that he was fully satisfied for that time, and that he only now thought of something that he might bestow on him, that might partly satisfie the kindness that he had received. Fryer Bacon said, that he desired nothing so much as his Majesties lebe, and if that he might be assured of that, he would think himself happy in it: for that (said the King) be thou ever sure of in token of which receive this Jewel, and withall gave him a costly Jewel from his neck. The Fryer did with great reverence thank his Majestie, and said: as your Majesties bassall you shall ever finde me ready to do you serbice, your time of need shall find it both beneficial and delightfull. But amongst all these Gentlemen I see not the man that your Grace did send for me by, sure he hath lost his way, or else met with some spozt that detains him so long. I promised to be here before him, and all this noble assembly can witness I am as good as my word: I hear him comming: with that entred the Gentleman all be dircd, (for he had rid through ditches, quagmires, plashes, and waters that he was in a most pitifull case) he seeing the Fryer there, looked full angerly, and bid a por on all his Devils for they had led him out of his way; and almost drowned him. Be not angry Sir (said Fryer Bacon) here is an old friend of yours that hath more cause: for shee hath tarryed these three hours for you (with that he pulled up the Hangings, and behind them stood a

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kitchin-Wayd with a basting-ladle in her hand:) now am I as good as my woord with you: for I promised you to helpe you to your sweet-heart, how do you like this? So ill, answered the Gentleman, that I will be rebenched of you. Threaten not (said Fryer Bacon) lest I do you more shame, and do you take heed how you give Scholars the lye again: but because I know not how well you are stored with money at this time, I will bear your Wenchess charges home: with that she banished away: The King, Queen, and all the company laughed to see with what shame this Gentleman indured the sight of his greasse sweet-heart: but the Gentleman went away discontented. This done, Fryer Bacon took his leaues of the King and Queen, and received from them divers gifts (as well as thanks) for his Act he shewed them.

How Fryer Bacon deceived his Man, that would fast for his conscience sake.

Fryer Bacon had one only man to attend on him, and he too was none of the wiest, for he kept him in Charity, more than for any service he had of him. This man of his (named Miles,) never could indure to fast as other Religious persons did, for alwayes he had in one corner, or another, flesh, which he woulde eat when his Master eat bread only, or else did fast and abstaine from all things. Fryer Bacon seeing this, thought at one tyme or other to be even with him, which he did one Fryday in this manner: Miles on the Thursday night had prohided a great black-pudding for his Frydayes fast: This Pudding put he in his pocket (thinking belike to heat it so, for his Master had no fire on those dayes:) on the next day, who was so demure as Miles? he looked as though he woulde not have eate any thing: when his

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Master offered him some bread, he refused it, saying, his sins deserved a greater penance than one dayes fast in a whole week: his Master commended him for it, and bid him take heed that he did not dissemble, for if he did it would at last be known: Then were I worse then a Turk, said Miles: so went he forth as if he would have gone to pray privately, but it was for nothing but to pray privately upon his black pudding: that pulled he out, for it was half roasted with the heat of his bumm, and fell to it lustily; but he was deceived, for having put one end in his mouth, he could neither get it out again, nor bite it off, so that he stamped out for help: his Master hearing him, came, and finding him in that manner, took hold of the other end of the pudding, and led him to the Hall, and showed him to all the Scholars, saying, See here my good friends and fellow students, what a devout man my servant Miles is, he lobed not to break a fastday, witness this pudding that his conscience will not let him swallow: I will have him to be an example for you all: then tyed he him to a window by the end of the pudding, where poor Miles stood like a Beast tyed by the nose to a stake, and endured many slouts and mocks: at night his Master released him from his penance; Miles was glad of it, and did how neher to break more fast dayes whilst that he lived.

How Fryer Bacon saved a Gentleman that had given himself to the Devil.

In Oxfordshire there libed a Gentleman, that had through his riotous expences wasted a faire Inheritance that was left him by his Father: After which he grew so poore; that he had not wherewith to buy himself so much bread as would maintaine his miserable life: the memory of his former state that he had libed

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in, and the present want that he now sustained, made him to grow desperate and regardless both of his soule and bodies estate: which gabe the Devil occasion to worke upon his weaknes in this manner following.

On a time, he being alone full of grief and care, (grief for his follies past, and care how to get a poore living for the remainder of his dayes) the Devil came unto him and asked him what he wanted (he came not in a shape terrible, but like an old penny-father.) This Gentleman was amazed at his sodaine presence, but hearing him demand of his wants, he took to him courage and said: I want all things, I want money to buy me apparell, money to buy me meat, money to redeem my Land, and money to pay my debts: Can or will you helpe me in this misery? I will answered the Devil, on some conditions helpe you to money so to supply all those wants, and that sodainly. On any conditions, said the Gentleman, help me; and I swear to performe them: I take no Oaths (answered the Devil) I must have Bonds; if you will do so, meet me by the Woods-side to morrow morning, and there I will have the money ready. I will, said the Gentleman (for he poore man was glad of it on any conditions, as he said before.) The next day he went to the Wood, where the Devil had promised to meet him: long had he not been there, but he beheld the Devil comming, and after him two other like Herbingmen, with Wagges of money: this rejoiced the poore Gentleman's heart to think that he should once again live like a man. The Devil comming to him said: Son, I will perfoyme my promise unto you if that you will seal to the condicsons that I have hear already drawn: boillingly said the Gentleman, I will, I pray read them. The Devil read them to this effect: that he lent him so much money as he should habe need of; to be imployed to these uses following: First, to redeem his morgage'd Land: next to pay his debts: lastly, to buy him such necessaries, as he wanted:

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wanted ; to be lent on this condicione, That so soon as he had paid all his debts that he should be at the Lenders disposing, and without any delay freely to yeel himself to him upon the first demand of the aforesaid Lender. To this the Gentleman sealed, and had the money carried to his chamber, with which money he in shorrt time redemeed his land, and bought such things as he needed, and likewise paid all his debts, so that there was not any man that could ask him one penny.

Thus libed this Gentleman once again in great credit, and grew so great a husband that he encreased his estate, and was richer then ever his Father beseeze him was : but long did not this joy of his continue for one day he being in his Studie the Debill appeared unto him and did tell him, that now his Land was redeemeed, and his debts paid, and therefore the time was come that he must yeeld himself to his mercy, as he was bound by Bond. This troubled the Gentleman to hear, but more to chink how he must become a slave to a stranger that he did not know, (for he knew not as yet that he was the Debill) but being urged to answer for himself by the Debill, he said, that he had not as yet paid all his debts, and therefore as yet he was not lyable to the Bonds strait Conditions. At this the Debill seemed angry, and with a fearfull noise transformed himself to an ugly shape, saying, Alas, poor wretch, these are poore excuses that thou framest. I know them all to be false, and so will probe them to thy face to morrow morning, tell then I leabe thee to despair. So with great noise he went his way, leaving the Gentleman half dead with fear.

When he was gone, the Gentleman rebibing, behought himself in what a miserable state he was now in, then wished he that he had lived and dyed pupilly, then cursed he all his ambitious thoughts that led him first to desire again that weare which he had so vainly by his riot lost ; then would he curse his prodigal expences,

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that were the original of all his misery: thus was he tormented a long time in his mind, at last he tully resolved to end his wretched life by some violent death, and to that end he went forth, thinking to kill himself, which he had done, had it not been for the Fryer: for as he was falling upon his sword, Fryer Bacon came by and called to him to hold, which he did. Fryer Bacon demanded of him the cause why he was so desperate that he would run headlong to hell? O sir, said he, the cause is great, and the relation is so terrible to me, that I would intreat you not to trouble me any more, but to leabe me to my own will: this answer filled the Fryer with amazement and pity both at once, which made him to urge him in this manner: Sir, should I leabe you to this wilfull damnation, I were unfit ever hereafter to wear or touch any robe that belongeth to the holy Order, whereof I am a Brother: you know (doubt not) that there is giben power to the Church to absolve penitent sinners, let not your wilfulness take away from you that benefit which you may receive by it; freely confess yourself (I pray you) unto me, and doubt not but I shall give your troubled conscience ease; Father (said this Gentleman) I know all that you have spoken is truth, and I have many times received comfort from the Mother Church, (I dare not say Dur, for I fear me, she will never receive me for a Childe) I have no part in her benediction; yet since you request so earnestly the cause, I will tell you, hear it and tremble, know then that I have giben my self to the Devill for a little wealth, and he to morrow in this Wood must have me; now have you my grief, but I know not how to get comfort.

This is strange (quoth Fryer Bacon) yet be of good comfort, penitential tears may do much, which see you do not spare; soon I will visit you at your house, and give you that comfort (I hope) that will beget you again to goodness: the Gentleman with these words was somewhat comforted, and returned home. At night Fryer Bacon

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Bacon came to him, and found him full of teares for his haynous offences, for these tears he gabe him hope of pardon, demanding further what conditions he had made with the Debil; the Gentleman told him, how that he had promised himself to him as soon as he had payd all his debts: which now he had done, for he owed not one penny to any man living. Well, said Fryer Bacon, continue thy sorrow for thy sinnes, and to morrovo meet him without feare, and be thou content to stand to the next mans judgement that shall come that way, whether thou dost belong to the Debill or no: fear not, but do so, and be thou assured that I will be hee that shall come by, and will give such judgement on thy side, that thou shalt be free from him; with that Fryer Bacon went home, and the Gentleman went to his prayers.

In the morning the Gentleman (after that he had blessed himself) went to the Wood where he found the Debill ready for him; so soon as he came near, the Debill said, Now Deceiber are you come, now shal thou see that I can and will prove that thou hast paid all thy debts, and therefore thy soul belongeth to me. Thou art a Deceiber (said the Gentleman) and gabest me money to cheat me of my soul, for else why wilst thou be thy own judge: let me have some other to judge between us: Content, (said the Debill, take whom thou wilst: then I will have said the Gentleman) the next man that cometh this way; hereto the Debill agreed. No sooner were these words ended, but Fryer Bacon came by, to whom the Gentleman spake, and requested that he would be judge to a weighty matter between them two; the Fryer said he was content, so both parties were agreed; the Debill said they were, and told Fryer Bacon how the case stood between them in this manner.

I know Fryer, that I seeing this Prodigal like to starbe for want of food lent him money, not only to buy him victuals, but also to redeem his lands and pay his debts, conditionally that so soon as his debts were paid, that

he

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he wold give himself freely to me ; to this here is his hand (shewing him the Hand) now ny tyme is expired, for all his debts are paid, which he canret deny. This case is plain, if it be so that his debtes are paid : his silence confirms it, said the Devill, thereforee give him a just sentence. I will (said Fryer Bacon.) But first tell me (speaking to the Gentleman,) didst thou never yet give the Devill any of his money back, nev requite him any wayes : never had he any thing of me as yet (answering the Gentleman) then never let him habe any thing of thee and thou art free : Deceiter of mankind, said he (speaking to the Devill) it was thy bargain, never to meddle with him so long as he was indebtred to any ; now how canst thou demand of him any thing when he is indebtred for all that he hath to thee, when he payeth thee thy money, then take him as thy due ; till then thou hast nothing to do with him : and so I charge thee to be gone. At this the Devill banished with great horroure : but Fryer Bacon comforted the Gentleman, and sent him home with a quiet conscience, bidding him never to pay the Devills money back as he tendred his own safety : which he promised for to obserbe.

How Fryer Bacon made a Brazen head to speak, by the which he would have walled England about with Brass.

Fryer Bacon reading one day of the many conquests of England, bethought himself how he might keep it hereafter from the like conquests, and so make himself famous hereafter to all posterities. This (after great study) he found could be no way so well done as one, which was to make a head of Brass, and if he could make this head to speake (and heretofore when it speakes) then might he be able to wall England about with Brass. To this purpose he got one Fryer Bangoy to assist him, who was a great Scholar and a Magician,

(but

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(but not to compare to Fryer Bacon:) these two with great studie and paines so framed a head of Brass that in the inward parts thereof there was all things like as in a naturall mans head: this being done, they were as far from perfection of the work as they were before, for they knew not how to give these parts that they had made, motion, without which it was impossible that it shoud speak; Many books they read, but yet could not finde any hope of what they sought, that at the last they concluded to raise a spirit, and to knowe of him that which they could not attain to by their owne studie. To do this they prepared all things ready, and went one evening to a wood thereby, and after many remonies used, they spake the words of Conjuracion, which the Devill straight obeyed and appeared unto them, asking what they would? Know, said Fryer Bacon, that we have made an artificiall head of Brass, which we would have to speake, to the furtherance of which we have raised thee, and being raised, we will here keep thee, unless thou tell us the way and manner how to make this head to speake. The Devill told him, that he had not that power of himself. Beginner of lies (said Fryer Bacon) I know that thou dost dissemble, and therefore tell it us quickly, or else we will here bind thee, to remain during our pleasures. At these threathnings the Devill consented to do it, and told them, that with a continuall fume of the six bottell Simples it shoud have motion, and in one moneths space speake; the time of the moneth or day he knew not, also he told them, that if they heard it not before it had done speaking, all their laboz shoud be lost: they being satisfied, licenseth the spirit for to depart.

Then went these two learned Fryers home again, and prepared the Simples ready, and made the fume, and with continuall watching attended when the Brassen head would speake: Thus watched they for three weeks without any rest, so that they were so weary and

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and sleepis, that they could not any longer retain from rest; Then called Fryer Bacon his man Miles, and told him that it was not unknown to him what pains Fryer Bungey and himself had taken for threeweeks space, only to make and to hear the brazen-head speake, which if they did not, then had they lost all their labour, and all England had a great losse thereby: therefore he intreated Miles that he would watch whilst that they sleep, and call them if the head spake. Fear not good Master (sad Miles) I will not sleep, but hearken and attend upon the head, and if it chance to speak, I will call you, therefore I pray take you both your rests, and let me alone for watching this head: After Fryer Bacon had given him a great charge; the second time Fryer Bungey and he went to sleep, and left Miles alone to watch the brazen-head; Miles, to keep him from sleeping, got a Taber and Pipe, and being merry disposed, sung this Song to a Northern tune of

Cam'st thou not from New-Castle.

To couple is a custom,
all things thereto agree:
Why should not I then love?
since love to all is free.

But I'le have one that's pretty,
her cheeks of Scarlet dye,
For to breed my delight,
when that I ligge her by.

Though vertue be a Dowry,
yet I'le chuse money store
If my Love prove untrue,
with that I can get more.

The fair is often unconstant,
the black is often proud,

I'le

of Fryer Bacon.

I'le chuse a loyely brown,
come Fidler scrape the crowd.

Come Fidler scrape the crowd,
for *Peggie* the brown is shee,
Must be my Bride, God guide,
that *Peggie* and I agree.

With his own musick, and such songs as these, spent
he his time, and kept himself from sleeping; at last, af-
ter some noise, the head spake these two words, Time is;
Miles hearing it to speak no more, thought his Master
would be angry if he waked him for that, and therefore
he let them both sleep, and began to mock the head in this
manner. Thou *Brazen-faced head*, hath my Master took
all this paine about thee, and now dost thou require him
with two words, Time is: had he watched with a Lawyer
so long as he hath watched with thee, he would have gi-
ben him moze and better words then thou hast yet; if thou
canst speak no wiser, they shall sleep till dooms day for
me: Time is, I know Time is, and that you shall hear
goodman *Brazen-face*.

To the tune of, Dainty come thou to me,

Time is for some to plant,
Time is for some to sow;
Time is for some to graft,
The horn as some do know.

Time is for some to eat,
Time is for some to sleep.
Time is for some to laugh,
Time is for some to weep.

Time is for some to sing,
Time is for some to pray,

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Time is for some to creep,
That have drunk all the day.

Time is to cart a Bawd,
Time is to whip a Whore,
Time is to hang a Thief,
And Time is for much more.

Do you tell us Copper-nose, when Time is, I hope we
Scholars knew our Times, when to drinke, when to
kiss our Hostis, when to go on her score, and when to pay
it; that time comes seldom. After half an hour had passed:
the head did speak again two words, which were these,
Time was. Miles respected these words as little as he did
the former, and would not wake them, but still scoffed at the
brazen head, that it had learned no better words, and had
such a Tutor as his Master: and in scorne of it sung this
Song.

To the tune of a rich Merchant-man.

Time was when thou a Kettle
wert fil'd with better matter,
But Fryer Bacon did thee spoyle,
when he thy sides did batter.

Time was when conscience dwelled
with men of occupation:

Time was when Lawyers did uor thrive
so well by mens vexation.

Time was when Kings and Beggers
of one poor stusse had being:

Time was when Office kept no knayes;
that time it was worth seeing.

Time was a bowle of water
did give the face reflecction:

Time

of Fryer Bacon.

Time was when wome knew no paine
which now they call complexion. the card
Time was when wome knew no paine
which now they call complexion. the card

Time was : I know that Brazen-face, without your
telling, I know that Time was, and I know what things
there was when Time was, and if you speak no wiser, no
Master shall be waked for me. Thus Miles talked and sung
till another half houre was gone, then this Brazen head
spake again these wordes, Time is past : and therewith fell
down, and presently followed a terrible noyse, with strange
flashes of fire, so that Miles was half dead with fear : At
this noyse the two Fryers stroked, and wondered to see the
whole room so full of smoke, but that being banished they
might perceibe the Brazen head broke, and lying on the
ground ; at this sight they grieved, and called Miles to know
who this came. Miles, half dead with fear, said, that it fell
down of it self, and that with the noyse and stir that fol-
lowed he was almost frightened out of his wits : Fryer
Bacon asked him if he did not hear it speake ; (yes quoth
Miles) it spake, but to no purpose, Ile have a Parret
speak better in that time that you have been teaching this
Brazen-head. Out an thes Willain (said Fryer Bacon)
thou hast undone us both, hadst thou but called us when
it did speake, all England had been walled about with
Walls, to its glory and our eternall fames : what were
the wordes it spake ; very few (said Miles) and those were
none of the wisest that I have heard neither : first he
said, Time is. Hadst thou called us then (said Fryer
Bacon) we had been made for ever : then (said Miles)
halfe an houre after it spake again, and said Time was.
And wouldst thou not call us then (said Bungey) ? Alas
(said Miles) I thought it woulde have told me some long
Tale, and then I purposed to have called you : Then
halfe an houre after he cryed Time is past, and made such
a noyse, that he hath waked you himself me thinks.
At this Fryer Bacon was in such a rage, that he would-

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bate beaten his man, but he was restrained by Bungey: but nevertheless for his punishment he with his Art bruck him dumb for one whole Moneth space. Thus that great woork of these learned Fryers was oberthrowned (to their great grieves) by this simple fellow.

How Fryer Bacon by his Art took a Town, when the King had lain before it three Moneths, without doing to it any hurt,

In those times when Fryer Bacon did all his strange tricks, the King of England had a great part of France, which they held a long time, till civil warres at home in this Land made them to lose it: It did chance that the King of England (for some cause held knotted to himself) went into France with a great Armie, where after many battoyles, he did besiege a strong Town, and lay before it full thre moneths, without doing to the Town any great damage, but rather received the hurt himself. This did so vex the King, that he sought to take it any way, either by policy or strenght: To this intent he made Proclamation, that whosoever could deliver this Town into his hand, he should have for his paines ten thousand Crownes truly paid. This was proclaimed, but there was none found that would undertake it: at length the news did come into England of this great reward that was promised. Fryer Bacon hearing of it went into France, and being admitted to the Kings presence, he thus spake unto him: your Majestie I am sure hath not quite forgot your poor subject Bacon, the love that you helued to me; being last in your presence, hath drawn me for to leade my Countrey and my Studies, to do your Majesties service: I beseech your Grace, to command me to come as my poore Art or life may do you pleasure: The King thanked him for his love, but told him, that he

of Fryer Bacon.

he had now more need of Armes than Art, and wanted
brave Souldiers more than learned Schollers. Fryer
Bacon answered, your Grace saith well: But let me
(under correction) tell you that Art oftentimes doth
those things that are impossible to Armes, which I will
make good in some few examples; I will speak one-
ly of things performed by Art and Nature, wherein
shall be nothing Magicall: and first by the figuration of
Art, there may be made instruments of Navigation
without men to row in them, as great Ships to brook
the Sea, only with one man to steere them, and they
shall saile farre more easilly than if they were full of men:
also Chariots that shall move with an unspeakable
force, without any living Creature to stirr them. Likewise
an instrument may be made to flye withall, if
one st. in the middest of the Instrument and do turn an
Engine, by which the wings being Artificially composed,
may beat aire after the manner of a flying bird. By an
Instrument of three fingers high, and throe fingers broad,
a man may rid himself and others from all Imprison-
ment: yea such an Instrument may easilly be made,
whereby a man may violently draine unto him a thousand
men, till they will they, or any other thing. By art also
an Instrument may be made, whereby men may
walk in the bottom of the Sea or Rivers without bodi-
ly danger: this Alexander the Great used (as the Ethneck
Philosopher reported) to the end he might behold the se-
cret of the Seas. But physicall figurations are farre
more strange: for by that may be framed Perspects and
Looking glasses, that one thing shall appear to be many,
as one man shall appear to be a whole Army; and one
Man or Maon shall seem divers. Also perspects may
be so framed that things a far off shall seem most nigh
unto us: With one of these did Julius Cesar, from the
Sea coasts in France, make and obserue the situation of
the Castles in England. Bodies, may also be so framed
that the greatest thing shall appear to be the least, the
highest

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highest, lowest, the most secret to the most manifest, and in such like sort the contrary. Thus did Socrates perceive, that the Dragon which did destroy the City and Countrey adjoining with his noysome breath, and contagious influence, did lurke in the dens between the Mountains: and thus may all things that are done in Cities or Armies be seen by the enemies.

Again, in such wise many bodies be found, that benemous and infectious influence may be brought whither he will. In this did Aristotle instruct Alexander, through which instruction the poison of a Walliske, being cast upon the wall of a City, the poison was conveyed into the City, to the destruction thereof. Also perspects may be made to deceire the sight, as to make a man beleive that he feeth great stoe of riches, when that there is not any. But it appertaines to a higher power of Figuration, that beams should be brought and assembled by divers flexions and refractions in any distance that we will, to burn any thing that is opposite unto it, as it is witnessed by those Perspects or Glasses that burn before and behinde: but the greatest and chiefeſt of all Figurations and things figured, is to describe the heavenly bodies, according to their length and breadth in a corporall Figure, wherein they may corporally move with a dally motion. These things are worth a Kingdome to a wise man: These may suffice, my Royall Lord, to shew what Art can do: and these with many things more as strange, I am able by Art to perorme. Then take no thought for winning this Doctor, for by my Art you shall (ere many dayes be past) have your desire.

The King all this while heard him with admiration: but hearing him now, that he would undertake to winne the Town, he bish out into these speeches. Most learned Bacon, do but what thou hast said, and I will give thee what thou most desirist, either wealth or honour, choose which thou wilt, and I will be as ready to perform

of Fryer Bacon.

perforzine, as I habe been to promise.

Your Majesties love is all that I seek (said the Fryer) let me habe that and I habe honest enough; for wealth, I habe content, the wise Gould seek no moze: But to the purpose, Let your Psoners raise up a Mount so high (or rather higher) then the wall, and then shall you see some probability of that which I habe promised.

This Mount in two dapes was raised: then Fryer Bacon went with the King to the top of it, and did with a perfect shew to him the Town, as plainly as if he had been in it: At this the King did wonder; but Fryer Bacon told him, that he shold wonder moze ere next day noon; against which time he desyred him to habe his whole Army in readiness, for to scale the wall upon a signal giben by him from the Mount. This the King promised to do, and returned to his Tent full of jey, that he shold gain this strong Town. In the morning Fryer Bacon went up to the Mount and set his Glasses, and other Instruments up: In the mean time the King ordered his Armie, and stood in a readines for to gibe the assaye: when the signal was giben whiche was the wabing of a Flagg, ere nine of the clock Fryer Bacon had burnt the gate-house of the Town, with other houses, only by his Mathematicall Glasses, which made the whole town in an uppose, for none did know how it came: whiles that they were quenching the same, Fryer Bacon did wabe his Flagg: upon which signall giben, the King set upon the Town, and took it with little or no resistance. Thus through the Art of this learned man the King got this strong Town, which he could not do with all his men without Fryer Bacons help.

D

How

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How Fryer Bacon overcame the German Conjurer *Vandermaſt*, and made a Spirit of his own carry him into Germany.

The King of England after he had taken in the Town, shewing great mercy to the Inhabitants, giving some of them their lives freely, and others he set at liberty for their Gold: the Town he kept as his own, and swoze the chief Cityzens to be his true Subjects. Presently after, the King of France sent an Ambassadour to the King of England, for to intreat a peace between them. This Ambassadour being come to the King, he feasted him (as it is the manner of Princes to do) as with the best Spots as he had then, welcomed him. The Ambassadour seeing the King of Eng-land so free in his Lowe, desirred likewise to give him some taste of his goodliking, and to that intent sent for one of his followers (being a German, and named Vandermaſt) a famous Conjurer, who being come he told the King that since his Grace had been so bountifull in his love to him, he would shew him (by a servant of his) such wonderfull things as his Grace had never seen the like before. The King demanded of him of what nature those things were that he would do? the Ambassadour answered that they were things done by the Art of Magick, the King hearing of this, sent straight for Fryer Bacon, who presently came, and brought Fryer Bunney with him.

When the Banquet was done, Vandermaſt did aske the King, if he desirred to see the Sprit of any man deceased: and if he did, he would raise him in such manner and fashion as he was in when that he lived. The King told him, that above all men he desirred to see Pompey the Great, who would abide no equall. Vandermaſt by his Art raised him, armed in such manner as he was

of Fryer Bacon.

was when he was slain at the battle of Pharsalia: At this they were all highly contented. Fryer Bacon presently raised the ghost of Julius Cesar, who would abide no Superior, and had slain this Pompey at the battle of Pharsalia: At the sight of him they were all amazed but the King, who sent for Bacon; And Vandermast said there was some man of Art in that presence, whom he desired to see. Fryer Bacon then shewed himself, saying; It was I Vandermast that raised Cesar, partly to give content to the royall presence, but chiefly for to conquer thy Pompey, as he did once before, at that great Battle of Pharsalia, which he now again shall do. Then presently began a fight between Cesar and Pompey, which continued a good space to the content of all, except Vandermast: At last Pompey was overcome and slain by Cesar: then banished they both away.

My Lord Ambassadour (said the King) me thinks that my Englishman hath put down your German: hath he no better running than this? Yes, answered Vandermast, Your Grace shall see me put down your Englishman ere that you go from hence: and therefore Fryer prepare thy self with þ best of thy Art to withstand me. Alas, said Fryer Bacon, it is a little thing will serue to resist thee in this kind. I have here one that is my inferiour (shewing him Fryer Bunney) try thy Art with him: and if thou do put him to the worst then will I deal with thee and not till then.

Fryer Bunney then began to shew his Art: and after some turning and looking on his Book, he brought up among them the Hesperian Tree, which did bear golden Apples: These Apples were kept by a waking Dragon that lay under the Tree: He having done this, bid Vandermast finde out one that durst gather the fruit. Then Vandermast did raise up the ghost of Hercules in his habit that he wore when that he was living, and with his Club on his shoulder; Here is one, said Vandermast, that

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Shall gather fruit from this Tree : this is Hercules, that in his life time gathered of this fruit and made the Dra-
gon couch : and now again shall he gather in spight of all
oppotion. As Hercules was going to pluck the fruit,
Fryer Bacon held up his wand, at whiche Hercules stayed
and seemed fearefull. Vandermast bid him soz to gather
of the fruit, or else he wold torment him. Hercules was
more fearefull, and said, I cannot, nor dare not : for great
Bacon stands, whose charms are far more powerfull then
thine, I must obey him, Vandermast. Hereat Vandermast
curst Hercules, and threatened him : But Fryer Bacon
laughed and bid him not to chuse himself ere that his jour-
ney was ended : for seeing (saith he) that Hercules will
do nothing at your command, I will bade him to do you
some service at mine, with that he bid Hercules carry him
home into Germany. The Devill obeyed him and took
Vandermast on his back and went away with him in all
their flights. Hold Fryer, cryed the Ambassadour, I will
not lose Vandermast for halfe my land. Content your self,
my Lord, answered Fryer Bacon, I have but sent him
home to see his wife, and ere long he may return. The
King of England thanked Fryer Bacon and forzed
some gifts on him for his service that he had done for him:
For Fryer Bacon did so little respect money, that he never
would take any thing of the King.

Now Fryer Bacon through his wisdom saved the
endangered lives of three Brethren.

The Peace being concluded between the King of
England and the King of France : the King of Eng-
land came again into his Countrey of England, where
he was received very joyfully of all his subjects : But in
his absence had happened a discord between thre Bre-
thren, the like hath not been often heard. Thus it was :

of Fryer Bacon.

A rich Gentleman of England dyed, and left behinde him thre Sonnes: Now for some reason (which was best knowne to himself) he appointed none of them by name to be his heir, but spake to them after this manner: You are all my sonnes, and I love you all as a Father shoulde do; all alike, not one better then the other: and because I shoulde always do rightly so neare as I can, I leabe all my Lands and goods to him that loves me best. These were the last words that he spake, concerning any worldly affaires.

After he was dead and buried, there arose a great controverſie betwixt them who shoulde inherit their Fathers goods and Lands, ebery one pleading for himself, how that he loved his Father best. All the cunning Lawyers of the Kingdome, could say nothing to the purpose, concerning this case, so that they were inforced to beg of the King a grant for a combate, for they would not share the Lands and goods amongst them, but ebery one deſired all or else nothing. The King ſeeing no other way to end this controverſie, granted a combate, the two elder being to fight first, and the Conquerour to fight with the younges, and the furviver of them was to have the Land.

The day being come that was ſet for those Combatants, they all came in Armed for the fight. Fryer Bacon being there present, and ſeeing ſuch three lustie young men like to perifh, and that by their own flesh and blood, grieved very much, and went to the King, deſiring his Maieſty that he would ſtay the fight, and he would find a means without any blood-ſhed to end the matter: the King was very glad hereof, and cauſed the Combatants to be brought before him, to whom he ſaid: Gentlemen, to ſave the blood of you all, I haue found away, and yet the controverſie ſhall be ended that is now amonſt you. Are you contented to ſtand to his Judgement that I haue appoint? They all anſwered,

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that they were. Then they were bid to return three dayes after. In that time Fryer Bacon had caused the body of their deceased Father to be taken out of the ground, and brought to the Court: the body he did cause to be bound to a Stake, naked from the middle upwards, and likewise prepared three Bowes and Shafts for the three brethren: all these kept he secretly.

The third day being come, came these three brethren, to whom Fryer Bacon in the presence of the King, gabe the three Bowes and Shafts, saying Be not offended at what I have done, there is no other way but this to judge your cause. See here is the body of your dead Father, shoot at him, for he that commeth nearest to his heart, shall have all the Lands and goods.

The two elder prepared themselves, and shot at him, and stuck their Arroves in his brest. Then bid they the youngest to shoot: but he refused it, saying, I will rather lose all than wound that body that I so lobed living: Had you ever had but halfe that lobe (in you) to him that I have, you woulde rather have had your own bodieis mangled, than to suffer this lifeleſſ cozpes thus to be used: nay, you do not only suffer it, but you are the Actors of this act of shame: and speaking this, he wept.

Fryer Bacon seeing this, did give the Judgement on his side, for he lobed his Father best, and therefore had all his Lands and goods: The other two Brothers went away with shame for what they had done. This deed of Fryer Bacon was highly commended of all men: for he did not only give true Judgement, but also saved much blood that woulde haue been ſhed, had they been ſuffered to haue fought.

of Fryer Bacon.

How Fryer Bacon served the Theeves that robbed him, and
of the sport that his man Miles had with them.

I was reported about the Countrey, how that the King had given Fryer Bocon great store of Treasure. The report of this wealth made three theebes plot to rob Fryer Bacons house, which they put in practise one evening in this fashion. They knockt at the dooz, and were let in by Miles : No sooner were they in, but they took hold of him, and led him into the house, and finding Fryer Bacon there, they told him that they came for some money, which they must and would have ere they departed from thence. He told them, that he was but ill storred with money at that time, and therefore desired them to forbear him till some other time: they answered him again, that they knew that he had enough, and therfore it was but folly to delay them but straight let them have it by fair means, or else they would use that extremity to him that he would be loath to suffer. He seeing them so resolute, told them that they should have all that he had, and gabe them one hundred pounds a man. Herewith they seemed content, and would have gone their waies. Nay, said Fryer Bacon, I pray Gentlemen at my request tarry a little, and here come some of my mans Musick: you are hired reasonable well already. I hope in curteisie you will not deny me so small a request: that will we not (said they all.)

Miles thought now to have some sport with them, which he had, and therefore played lustily upon his Taber and Pipe; so soon as they heard him play (against their wills) they fell a dancing and that after such a laborious manner, that they quickly wearied themselves (for they had all that while the bagges of money in their hand,) yet had

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had Fryer Bacon not rebenge eneugh of them, but bid his man Miles lead them some larger measurs as he thought fitting, whitch Miles did. Miles straight led them out of the house into the fields, they solloited him dancing after a wild Antick manner : Then he lead them over a broad Lake full of water, and they followed him still, but not so good a way as he went (for he went over the bridge, but they by reason of their dancing could not keep the bridge, but fell of, and dancing through the water:) then led he them through a way where a Horse n ight very well have been up to the belly : they followed him, and were so dury as though they had wallowed in the mire like Swine : Sometime he gave them rest only to laugh at them. Then were they so sleepie, when he did not play, that they fell to the ground. Then on the suddain would he play again, and make them start up and follow him. Thus he kept them the better part of the night. At last he in pitty left playing, and let them rest. They being asleep on the bare ground, he took their money from them, and gave them this song for a farewell ; ~~and~~ the tune of,

Oh do me no harm good man.

You roaring Boyes, and Rurdy Theeves,
your Pimpes, and Apple-squires :
Lament the case of these poor knaves :
and warm them by your fires.

They snorting lie like hogs in stie,
but hardly are so warm :
If all that cheat such hap should meat,
to true men 'twere no harm.

They money had, which made them glad,
there joy did not endure :
Were all Theeves serv'd as these have been,
I think there would be fewer.

When

of Fryer Bacon.

When that they awake, their hearts will ake,
to thinke upon their loss ;
And though the Gallowes they escape,
they go by weeping crost.

Your Truls expect your coming home
with full and heavy purse,
When that they see tis nothing so,
oh how they'l rail and curse !

For he that loves to keep a whore,
must have a giving hand,
Which makes a many knaves be choakt,
for bidding true men stand.

They were scarce any thing the better for this Song,
for they slept all the while. So Miles left them at their rest,
but they had small cause to sleep so soundly as they did, for
they were moze wet than ere were Scold with ducking.
Miles gave his Master his money again, and told the story
of their merry pilgrimage : he laughed at it, and wisht all
men had the like power to serbe all such knabes in the like
kinde. The thiebes wakynge in the morning and missing
their money, and seeing themselves in that plight, thought
that they had been serbed by some Divine powrer, for rob-
bing a Church-man, and thereforez they swoze one to the o-
ther, never to meddle with any Church-man again.

How Vandermaß, for the disgrace that he had received by
Fryer Bacon, sent a Souldier to kill him ; and how Fryer
Bacon escaped killing, and turned the Souldier from an
Atheist to be a good Christian.

Fryer Bacon sitting one day in his Study, locked o-
ver all the dangers that were to happen to him that

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Moneth, there found he, that in the second week of the moneth between Sun rising and setting, there was a great danger to fall on him, which wold without great care of prebention, take away his life. This danger whiche he did so fore-see, was caused by the German Conjuror Vander-mast, for he boyled a rebenge for the disgrace that he had receidet. To excuse the same, he hired a Walloon Souldier, and gabe him an hundred Crostnes to do the same, fiftie before-hand, and fiftie when he had killed him.

Fryer Bacon to save himself from this danger that was like to happen to him, would alwayes when that he read; hold a ball of Brass in his hand, and under that ball wold he set a Wason of Brass, that if he did chance to sleep in his reading, the fall of the Ball out of his hand into the Wason, might wake him. Being one day in his study in this manner a sleep, the Walloon Souldier was got in to him, and had drawn his sword to kill hym: but as he was ready to strike down fell the Ball out of Fryer Bacons hand, and waked him.

He seeing the Souldier stand there with a sword drawn, asked him what he was? and wherefore he came there in that manner; The Souldier boldly answered hem thus, I am a Walloon, and a Souldier, and inde that this, a villain: I am come hither, because I was sent, I was sent, because I was hired, I was hired, because I durst do it; the thing I shoule do, is not done, the thing to be done, is to kill thee: thus habe you heard what I am, & why I came.

Fryer Bacon wondred at this mans resolution: then asked he him who set him on work to be a Murderer: He boldly told him Vander-mast the German Conjuror. Fryer Bacon then asked him, what Religion he was of; He answered, Of that whiche many do profess, the chief principles of whiche were these, To go to an Ale-house, and to a Church with one devotion: To abstain from evill for want of Action, and to do good against their wills: It is a good profession for a Devil (said Fryer Bacon.) Doest thou believe Hell: I believe no such thing, answered the Souldier.

VI.

of Fryer Bacon.

dier. Then will I shew the contrary, said the Fryer: and presently raised the Ghost of Julian the Apottala who came by with his body burning, and so full of wounds, that it almost did affright the Souldier out of his wits. Then Bacon did command his Spirit to speak, and to shew what he was, and wherefore he was thus tormented: Then spake he to them in this manner: I sometimes was a Roman Emperour. Some Count greatness an happiness: I had an happiness beyond my Empire, had I kept that, I had been an happy man: would I had lost my Empire when I lost that. I was a Christian, that was my happiness, but my selfe-love and pride, made me to fall from it: for which I now am punished with neber ceasing torments, which I must still endure: the life which I enjoy is now prepared for unbelieving wretches like my self: so banished he away.

All this while the Souldier stood quaking, and sweat as he had felt the torments himself: and falling downe on his knees desired Fryer Bacon to instruct him in a better course of life, than he had yet gone in. Fryer Bacon told him that he shold not want his help in any thing, which he performed, instructing him better: Then gabe he him money, and sent him to the wars of the holy land, where he was slain.

Not far from Fryer Bacon, dwelt an old Man that had great store of Money which he let out to use, and would never do any good with it to the poore, though Fryer Bacon had often put him in minde of it, and willed him to do some good whilke he lifed. Fryer Bacon seeing this, by his Art made an Iron pot, which seemed full of gold; this being done he went to this rich

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Usurer and told him that he had some gold which he had gathered in his time that he had libed, but it being much in quantity, he feared that if it were known, it would be taken from him because it was unsitting a man of his Coat should habe so much: Now he desired him that he would let him habe some hundred pounds, which was not the fift part of his gold, and he should keep it for him. The Usurer was glad to hear of this, and told him that he should habe it, and that he would keep his gold as safe as he himself would: Fryer Bacon was glad to hear of this, and presently fetcht the pot: at the sight of which the Usurer laughed and thought to himself, how all that gold was his own, for he had a determination to gull the Fryer; but he gulled himself. See here is the gold (said Fryer Bacon) now let me habe of you one hundred pounds, and keep you this gold till I pay it back again: Very willing said the Usurer and told him one hundred pounds out, which Fryer Bacon took; and delivered him the pot and he went his way. This money did Fryer Bacon give to divers poore Scollers, and other people, and bid them pray for old Good-gatherers soules health (so was the Usurer called) which these poore people did, and would give him thankes and prayers when they met him, which he did wonder at: for he never deserbed the prayers of any man. At last this old Good-gatherer went to look on his pot of gold, but in stead of gold he found nothing but earth, at which sight he would have died had not his other gold hindred him, which he was to leabe behind him: so gathering up his spirits, he went to Fryer Bacon and told him he was abused and cheated, for which he would have the Law of him, unless he made him restitution. Fryer Bacon told him that he had not cheated him, but been his faithfull steward to the poore, which he could not chuse but know, either by their prayers or their thankes: and as for the Law he feared it not, but bid him do his worst. The old man seeing Fryer Bacon's resolution went his way, and said, that hereafter he would be his own steward.

How

of Fryer Bacon.

How Miles, Fryer Bacon's man, did Conjure for meat, and got meat for himself and his Host.

Miles chanced one day upon some business, to go some six miles from home, and being leath to part with some company that he had, he was belated and could get but half way home that night: to save his purse he went to ones house that was his Masters acquaintance: but when he came, the good man of the house was not at home and the woman would not let him have lodging. Miles seeing such cold entertainment, wished that he had not troubled her, but being now there, he was loath to go any farther, and therefore with words he perswaded her soz to give him lodging that night. She told him that she would willingly do it, if her husband were at home, but he being now out of Town, it would be to her discredit to lodge any man. You need not mistrust me (said Miles) soz I have no thought to attempt your chastity: lock me in any place where there is a bed, and I will not trouble you till to morrow that I rise. She thinking her husband would be angry if she should deny any of his friends so small a request, consented that he should lye there, if that he would be locked up: Miles was contented, and presently went to bed, and she locked him into the Chamber where he lay.

Long had not he been a bed, but he heard the door open, with that he rose, and peeped through a chink of the partition, and saw an old man come in. This man set down his basket that he had on his arme, and gabe the woman of the house throe or four sweet kisses, which made Miles his mouth runn with water to see it: Then did he undo his basket, and pulled out of it a fat Capon ready roasted and bread; with a bottle of good old Sack; this gabe he unto her, saying, Sweet-heart, hearing thy husband was out of Town, I thought good to visit thee, I am not come empty handed, but have brought

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something to be merry withall: lay the cloath sweet Honey, and let us first to Banquet, and then to bed. She kindly thanked him, and presently did as he bad her: they were not scarce at the Table, but her husband returning back knockt at the dooz. The woman hearing this was amazed, and knew not what to do with her old Lover: but looking on her apron-strings, she straight found (as women use to do) a trick to put her self free from this fear: for she put her lover under the bed, the Capon and Bread she put under a Tub, the Wottle of wine she put behind the Chest, and then she did open the dooz, and with a dissembling kis welcomed her husband home, asking him the reason why that he returned so quickly. He told her that he had forgot the money that he shold have carried withhim, but on the morrow verimes he wold be gone. Miles saw and heard all this, and having a desire to tast of the Capon and the Wine, called the good man. He asked his wife who that was? She told him an acquaintance of his, that entreated lodgynge there that night. He bid her open the dooz, which she did, and let Miles out. He seeing Miles there, bid him welcome, and bad his wife set them some meat to the Table: she told him that there was not any ready, but prayed him to keep his stomach till morrow, and then she wold provide them a good breakfast. Since it is so Miles, (said the goodman) we must rest content, and sleep out our hunger, Nay stay, said Miles, if that you can eat, I can finde you good meats: I am a Scholler and have some hit. I would fain set it (said the Good man) You shall, quoth Miles, and that presently: With that Miles pulled forth a Book out of his bosom; and began his Conjuracion in this fashion.

From the searchole Lake below, where aid and succour doth come From whence Spiris come and go, this Conjuracion straightway come one and tweynie and threy and fyve, Bacons man and friend, the best Conjuror in the world, and as he cometh to me, he will be my friend.

Comes

of Fryer Bacon.

Comes there none yet, quoth Miles? Then I must use
some other Charme.

Now the Owl is flown abroad,
For I hear the croaking Toad.
And the Bat that shuns the day,
Through the dark doth make her way.
Now the ghosts of men do rise,
And with fearful hideous cryes,
Seek revengement (from the good)
On their heads that spilt their blood,
Come some Spirit quick I say,
Nights the Devils Holy-day:
Where ere you be in dens or lake,
In the Ivie, Ewe, or Brake:
Quickly come and me attend,
That am *Bacons* man and friend.
But I will have you take no shape
Of a Bear, a Horse, or Ape:
Nor will I have you terrible,
And therefore come invisible.

Now he is come (quoth Miles) and therefore tell me
what meat you will have mine hoast? any thing Miles
(said the good man) what thou wilt, Why then (said
Miles) What say you to a Capon? I love it above all
meat (said the good man.) Why then a Capon you
shall have, and that a good one too. Be my spirit that
I have raised to do me service, I charge thee, seek and
search about the earth, and bring me hither straight the
best of Capons ready roasted. Then stood he still a lit-
tle, as though he had attended the Comming of his
Spirit, and on the suddain said: It is well done my Be-
mo, he hath brought me (mine hoast) a fat Capon from
the King of Tripolis own Table, and bread with it. I
but where is it, Miles? (said the hoast) I see neither Spi-
rit nor Capon.. Look under the Tub (quoth Miles) and
there

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there you shall find it: He presently did, and brought (to his wifes grief) the Capon and Bzead out. Stay (quoth Miles,) we do yet want some drink that is comfortable and good: I think (mine Hoast) a Bottel of Mallige Sack were not amiss. I will have it; Bemo, hast thee to Malligo, and fetch me from the Gobernour, a Bottel of his best Sack.

The pooz weman thought that he would habe betrayed her and her lover, and therefore wished that he had been hanged, when that he came first into her house. He habing stood a little while, as before said, Well done Bemo, look behind the great Chest(mine Hoast), he did so, and brought out the Bottel of Sack. Now (quoth he) Miles sit down and welcome, to thine own cheer: You may see wise (quoth he) what a man of Art can do, get a fat Capon and a bottel of good Wine in a quarter of an hour, and for nothing which is best of all: Come (good wife) sit down and be merry: for all this is paid for, I thank Miles.

She late and could not eat a bit for anger, but wished that every bit they did eat might choak them: Her old Lover too that lay under the bed all this while, was ready to bepis himself for fear, for he still looked when that Miles would discobter him.

When they had eaten and drunk well, the good man desired Miles that he would let him see the Spirit that fetched them this good cheer: Miles seemed unwilling, telling him that it was against the Lawes of Art, to let an illiterate man see a Spirit, but yet for once he would let him see it: And told him withall, he must open the Dooz, and scoundly beat the Spirit, or else he shuld be troubled hereaster with it. And because he shuld not fear it, he would put it into the shape of some one of his neighbours.

The Good-man told him, that he need not to doubt his valour, he wculd beat him scoundly, and to that purpose he took a gced Cudgell in his hand, and did stand

of Fryer Bacon

Stand ready for him; Miles then went to the bed side, under which the old man lay, and began to Conjure him with these words.

Bemo quickly come, appear,
Like an old man that dwels near;
Quickly rise, and in his shape,
From this house make thy escape;
Quickly rise, or else I swear
Ile put thee in a worser feare.

The old man seeing no remedy, but that he must needs come forth, put a good face on it, and rose from under the bed. Behold my spirit (quoth Miles) that brought me all that you have had. Now be as good as your word and swaddle him soundly. I protest (said the Goodman) your Debil is as like Goodman Scumpe the Looth-dzatver, as a Pome-water is like an Apple. Is it possythe that your Spylie can take other men shapes? Then teach this to keep his own shape. With that, he did beat the old man soundly, so that Miles was fain to take him off, and put the old man out of Doeg, so after some laughing, to bed they all went: but the woman could not sleep for grie, that her old Lober had had such hard usage for her sake.

How Fryer Bacon did help a young man to his Sweet heart, on which Fryer Bankey would have married to another;

and of one with that was at the Wedding.

A ^{old} Oxfordshire Gentleman had long time lobed a fair Maide, called Millifane; this lete of his was as kindly received of her, as it was freely giben of

The Famous History

him, so that there wanted nothing to the finishing of their japes, but the consent of her Father, who would not grant that she should be his wife (though formerly he had been a means to further the match) by reason there was a Knight that was a Sutor to her, and did desire that he might have her to his wife : But this Knight could never get from her the least token of good will: So surely was her love fixed upon the Gentleman.

This Knight seeing himself thus despised, went to Fryer Bungey, and told him his mind, and did promise him a good piece of Money, if he could get her for him, either by Art or Counsell.

Bungey (being esbeteusd) told him, that there was no better way in his mind, then to get her with her Father to go take the air in a Coach; and if he could do so, he would by his Art so direct the Horses, that they should come to an old Chappel, where he would attend, and there they might secretly be theraped.

The Knight rewarded him for his counsell, and told him, that if it took effect, he would be more bountifull unto him: And presently went to her Father, and told him of this. He liked well of it, and forced the poor Maid to ride with them. So soon as they were in the Coach, the horses runn presently to the Chappel, where they found Fryer Bungey attending for them: At the sight of the Church and the Priest, the poor Maid knew that he was betrayed, so that for grief she fell in a swoond, to see which, her Father and the Knight were very much grieved, and used their skill for her recovery.

In this time, her best Beloved the Gentleman, did come to her Fathers to visit her, but finding her not there, and hearing that he was gone with her Father & the Knight, he mistrusted some foul play, and in all hast went to Fryer Bacon, and desired of him some help to recover his Love again, whom he feared was utterly lost.

Fryer

Of Fryer Bacon.

Fryer Bacon (knowing him for a vertuous Gentleman) pitied him: and to give his griesse some release, shewed him a Glass, wherein any one might see any thing done (within fifty miles space) that they desired: so soon as he looked in the Glass, he saw his Lobe Millisent with her Father, and the Knight, ready to be marryed by Fryer Bungey: At the sight of this he cryed out that he was undone, for now should he lose his life in losing of his Lobe. Fryer Bacon bids him take comfort, for he would prevent the Marryage: So down they set, in an enchanted Chair, and suddenly they were carryed thzough the air to the Chappel: Just as they came in, Fryer Bungey was joyning their hands to marry them: But Fryer Bacon spoyleth his speech, for he struck him dumb, so that he could not speak a wozd.

Then raised he such a great Mist in the Chappel, so that neither the Father could see his Daughter, nor the Daughter her Father, nor the Knight either of them. Then took he Millisent by the hand, and led her to the Man she most desired: They both wept for joy, that they so happily once moze had met, and kindly thanked Fryer Bacon.

It greatly pleased Fryer Bacon to see the passion of these two Lovers, and seeing them both contented, he marryed them at the Chappel dooz, whilst her Father, the Knight, and Fryer Bungey went groping within, and could not find the way out. Now when he had marryed them, he bid them get lodging at the next Village, and he would send his Man with money: (for the Gentleman was not stozed, and he had a great way to his house) they did as he bad them.

That night he sent his Man Miles with money to them; but he kept her Father, the Knight and Fryer Bungey till the next day at noon in the Chappel, ere he released them.

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The Gentleman and his new married boise made that night a great supper for joy of their Marriage; and bid to it most of the Village: They wanted nothing but Musick, for which they made great moan. This want Fryer Bacon (though he was absent) supplied: for after supper there came such a Mask, that the like was never seen in that Village: For first, there was heard most sweet still Musick, then wind Musick: then came three Apes, and threee Monkeyes, each of them carrying a Loge. After them followed six Apes and Monkeyes more, all dressed in Antick Coats: these last sixe fell a dancing in such an odd manner, that they inobed all the beholders to much laughter: so after they had Antick changes, they did reverence to the Bridegroom and Bride, and so departed in order as they came in.

They all did marvell from whence these should come: But the Bridegroom knew that it was Fryer Bacons Art that gave them this grace to their wedding.

When all this was done; to bed they went, and enjoyed their wishes. The next day he went home to his own house with his Bride; and so the cost he had bestowed on them, most part of the Towns-folk brought them on their way.

Miles made one amongst them too, he for his Mallets sake was so plied with Cups, that he in thre days was scarce sober: For his welcom at his departure he gave them this Song:

Lo the time of, I have been a Fidler,
And did not you hear of a mirth that befell, And the morrow after a Wedding day,
And carrying a Bride at home to dwell,
and away to Twiver, away, away.

of Fryer Bacon.

The Quintin was set, and the Garlands were made,
This pitty old customes should every decay :
And we be to him that was hōst on a Jade,
for he carried no credit away, away.

We met a Consort of Fiddle dedees,
we set them a cockhorse, and made them to play,
The winning of Bullen, and Upsyfrees,
and away to Twiver, away, away.

There was ne're a Lad in all the Parish,
that would go to the Plough that day :
But on his fore horse his Wench he carries,
and away to Twiver, away, away.
The butler was quick, and the Ale he did tap,
the Maydens did make the Chamber full gay;
The Servingmen gave me a Fudling Cap,
and I did carry it away, away.

The Smith of the Town his Liquor so took,
that he was perswaded the ground look't blew,
And I dare boldly swear on a Book,
such Smithes as he there's but a few.

A Posset was made, and the women did sip,
and simpering said they could eat no more :
Full many a Maid was laid on the lip,
He say no more, but so give o'er.
They kindly thanked Miles for his Song, and so sent
him home with a Fox at his tail. His Master asked
him, Where he had been so long? he told him, at
the wedding. I know it (said Fryer Bacon) that
thou hast been there, and I know also (thou beast) that
thou hast been every day drunk. That is the worst that

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you can say by me, Master, for still poor men must be drunk, if that they take a Cup more than ordinary, but it is not so with the rich. Why, how is it with the rich then? I will tell you (said Miles) in few words.

Lawyers they are sick,
And Fryers are ill at ease,
But poor men they are drunk
And all is one disease.

Well Sirrah (said Fryer Bacon) let me not hear that you are infested any more with this disease, lest I give you some salve to your sweet meat. Thus did Fryer Bacon help these two Lobers, who in short time got the love of the old man, and libed in great joy: Fryer Bungey his tongue was again let loose, and all were friends.

How *Vandermaſt* and Fryer *Bungey* met, and how they strived who should excell one another in their Conjurations, and of their deaths.

Vandermaſt thinking that Fryer Bacon had been dead, came into England, and in Kent met with Fryer Bungey; He owing him no good will for Fryer Bacons sake, took his Horse out of the Stable, and instead of it left a Spirit like unto it. Fryer Bungey in the Morning rode, and mounting this Spirit (which he thought had been his Horse) rode on his journey: But he riding through a Water, was left in the midden of it by this Spirit, and being thus wet, he returned to his Inn (laid north) and staid there all night and did nothing. At the Nine Dore^r Vandermaſt met him, and asked

of Fryer Bacon.

bed him, if that were swimming time of the year? Bun-
gey told him, If that he had been so well horsed as he
was, when Fryer Bacon sent him into Germany, he might
have escaped that washing. At this Vandermast bit his
lip, and laid no moze, but went in. Bungey thought that
he would be even with him, which was in this manner.
Vandermast lobed a Wench well, which was in the house,
and sought many times to win her with gold, love or pro-
mises. Bungey knowing this, did shape a Spirit like the
Wench, which he sent to Vandermast.

Vandermast appointed the Spirit (thinking it had been
the Wench) to come to his Chamber that night, and
was very joyfull that he should enjoy her now at the last:
But this joy turned into sorrow, and his wanton hopes
into a bad nights lodging: For Fryer Bungey had by
his Art spread such a sheet on his Bed, that no sooner was
he laid with the Spirit on it, but it was carried through
the air, and let fall into a deep Pond, where Vandermast
had been drownned, if he had not had the Art of swimming:
He got quickly out of the Pond, and shaked himself like
a rough Water-Spaniel: But being cut, he was as
much vexed as before, for he could not tell the way
home, but was glad to keep himself in heat with wal-
king.

Next day when he came to his Inn, Fryer Bungey
asked him how he did like his Wench? He said, So
well, that he wished him such another. Bungey told
him that his Order did forbid him the use of any; and
therefore he might keep them for his friends: Thus did
they continually vex each other, both in words, and ill
actions. Vandermast desiring to do Fryer Bungey a
mischief, did challenge him the field, not to fight at
Sword and Dagger, single Rapiere, or case of Poniards,
but at woxter weapons far, it was that Diabolicall Art of
Magick) there to knew which of them was most cun-
ning,

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ning or had most power over the Devil: Bungey accepted of his challenge, and both probided themselves of things belonging to the Art, and to the field they went.

There they both spred their Circles some hundred foot from one another: and after some other Ceremonies did Vandermast begin: He by his Charmes did raise up a fiery Dragon, which did runne about Fryer Bungeys Circle, and did scorch him with his heat, so that he was almost ready to melt. Fryer Bungey tormentted Vandermast, in another Element: for he raised up the Sea monster that Perseus killed when he did redeem the fair Andromeda. This Sea monster did run about Vandermast, and such floods of water he did send out of his wide mouth, that Vandermast was almost drowned. Then did Fryer Bungey raise a Spirit up like Saint George, who fought with the Dragon, and killed it: Vandermast (following his example) raised up Perseus, who fought also with the Sea monster, and killed it: So were they both released from their danger.

They being not contented with this tryall of their skill, went further in their Conjurations and raised up two Spirits, each of them one. Bungey charged his Spirit so to assist him with his greatest power he had, that by it he might be able to overcome Vandermast. The Devil told him he would, if that he from his left Arme would give him but three drops of blood: But if that he did deny him that, then shuld Vandermast have power over him to do what he would: the like told Vandermasts Devil to him: To this demand of the spirits, they both agreed, thinking so to overcome each other; but the Devil overthrew them both.

They having given the Devil this blood, as is before spoken of, they both fell again to their Conjurations: first, Bungey did raise Achilles with his Greckes, who marched about Vandermast, and threatned him. Then Vandermast

Vandermast

of Fryer Bacon.

Vandermast raised Hector with his Trojans, who defended him from Achilles and the Greeks. Then began there a great battle between the Greeks and Trojans, which continued a good space. At last Hector was slain, and the Trojans fled. Then did follow a great tempest, with thundering and lightening, so that the two Conjurors wished that they had been away. But wishes were in vain, for now the time was come that the Devil would be paid for the knowledge that he had lent them, he would tarry no longer, but then took them in the height of their wickedness, and bereft them of their lives.

When the Tempest was ended, (which did greatly affright the Towns-men thereby) the Towns-men found the bodies of these two men (Vandermast and Burgey) breathless, and strangely burnt with fire. The one had Christian burial because of his Order: the other, because he was a stranger. Thus was the end of these two famous Conjurors.

How Miles would Conjure for Money, and how he broke his leg for fear.

Miles one day finding his Masters study open, stole out of it one of his conjuring Books; with this book would Miles needs Conjure for some Money: for he saw that his Master had Money enough, and he desired the like, which did make him bold to trouble one of his Masters Debts. In a private place he thought it best to do it: Therefore he went up to the top of the house, and there began to read: Long had he not read, but a Devil came to him in an ugly shape, and asked him what he would have. Miles being affrighted, could not speak, but stood muttering there like an Aspin-seal; the Devil seeing him so, (to increase his fear) raised a tem-

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gent, and hurled fire about, which made Miles leap from off the Leedes, and with the fall broke his legg.

Fryer Bacon hearing this noise, ran forth, and found his man Miles on the ground, and the Devil hurling fire off the house top. First laid he the Devil again, then went he to his man, and asked him how he got this broken legg; He told him that his Master did it: for he had strygled him, and made him leap off from the house top. What didst thou there? (said his Master.) I went to conjure, Sir, (said Miles) for money, but I have gotten nothing but a broken legg; and I now must beg for money to cure that, if you be not the more pitiful to me.

I have oftentimes given you warning not to meddle with my Books (said his Master) and yet you will still be doing: Take heed you had best, how you deal with the Devil again, for he that had power to break your legg, will break your neck, if you again do meddle with him: for this I do forgive you, for your leg breaking hath paid for your lawcynels, and though I gave you not a broken head, I will give you a plaister, and so sent him to the Chirurgeons.

How two young Gentlemen that came to Fryer Bacon to know how their Fathers did kill one another, and how Fryer Bacon for grief did break his rare
Glas, wherein he could see any thing that was don within fifty miles about him.

It is spoken of before now, that Fryer Bacon had a Glas, whiche was of that excellent nature, that any man might behold any thing that he desired to see, within the compass of fifty miles round about him: With this glas he had pleased others kindes of people; for Fathers did oftentimes desire to see (thereby) how their Children did, and Children how their Parents

of Fryer Bacon.

rents did; one friend how another did; and one Enemy (sometimes) how his Enemies did; so that from farre they would come to see this wonderfull Glass.

It happened one day that there came to him two young Gentlemen, (that were Countreymen, and Neighbours Children) for to knowe of him by his Glass, how their Fathers did: he being alwaies regardful of his cunning, let them see his glass, wherein they straight beheld their fathers, which they (through their owne follies) bought at their liues losses as you shall hear.

The Fathers of these two Gentlemen, (in their sons absence) were become great foes; this hatred betweene them was grown to that height, that wheresoever they met, they had not only wordes but blowes.

Just at that time, as it shoulde seem, that their sons were looking to see how they were in health, they were mett and had dravon, and were together by the ears.

The Sons seeing this, (and habing been alwaies great friends) knew not what to say to one another, but beheld each other with angry lookes: At last one of their Fathers as they might perceiue in the Glass, had a fall, and the other taking aduantage, stood over him ready to strike him. The Son of him that was downe, could then contain himself no longer, but told the other young man, that his Father had received wrong. He answered again, that it was fair. At last there grew such foul wordes betweene them, and their blouds were so heated, that they presently stab'd one another with their daggers, and so fell downe dead.

Fryer Bacon seeing them fall, ranne to them, but it was too late; for they were breathles before he came. This made him to grieve exceedingly: he judging that they had received the cause of the deaths by this his Glass, took the Glass in his hand, and uttered woe to this effect.

Wretched Bacon, ingred in thy knowledge, in thy understanding wretched, for thy Art hath beene the ruine

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of these two Gentlemen. Had I been buked in those hole things, the which mine Order tyme me to, I had not had that time that made this wicked Glasie: wicked I well may call it, that is the cauler of so vyle an Act; would it were sensible, then shold it feel my wrath, but being as it is, He ruine it for ruining of them; and with that he broke his rare and wonderfull Glasie, whose like the whole world had not. In this gies he his theretaine felow to him of the Deaths of Vandermast and Fryer Burgey. This did increase his grief, and made him so sorrowfull, that in thre dayes he wold not eat any thing, but kept his Chamber.

How Fryer Bacon burnt his booke of Magick, and gave himselfe to the study of Divinity only, and how he ryghted Anchorite.

In the time that Fryer Bacon kept his Chamber, he fell into divers meditations: Sometimes into the vanity of Arts and Sciences; then wold he condemn himselfe for studying of those things that were so contrary to his Order, and soule health, and wold say, that Magicks made a man a Devil: Sometimes wold he meditate on Divinity, then wold he cry out upon himselfe for neglecting the study of it, and the studynge Magicks: sometimes wold he meditate on the Mortaliety of mans life, then wold he condemne himselfe for spending a time so mort, so ill as he had done his: So wold he go from one thing to another, and in all condemn his former studies.

And that the world shold knowe how truly he did repente his wretched life: he caused a great fire to be made, and sending for many of his Friends, Scholars, and others, he shake to them after this manner: My good Friends and fellow Students, it is not unknown unto you, how that through my Art I have attained to that cre-

of Fryer Bacon.

did, that few men living ever had: Of the wonders that I have done all England can speak, both living and Contemned; I have unlocked the secrets of Art and Nature, and let the world see those things, that have lain hid ever since the death of Hermes, that rare and profound Philosopher: My studies have found the secrets of the Stars, the Books that I have made of them, no Serpent or Preyents to our greatest Doctors, so excellent hath my Judgment been therein.

I likewise have found out the secrets of Trees, Plants, and Stones, with their severall uses; yet all this knowledge of mine I esteem so lightly, that I wish that I were ignorant, and knew nothing; for the knowledge of these things (as I have truly found) serveth not to better a man in goodness; but only to make him proud, and think too well of himself. What hath all my knowledge of Natures secrets gained me? Only this, the loss of a better knowledge, the loss of divine Studies, which makes the immortal part of man (his soul) blessed.

I have found, that my knowledge hath been a heavy burthen, and hath kept down my good thoughts: but I will remode the cause, whicheare these Books; which I do purpose here before you all to burn. They all intreated him to spare his books because in them there were those things that after ages might receive great benefit by. He would not hearken unto them, but threwo them all into the fire, and in that flame burnt the greatest learning in the world.

¶ Then did he dispay of all his goods, some part he gabe to poor Scholars, some he gave to other poore folks, nothing left he for himself. Then caused he to be made in the Church wall a cell; where he locked himself in, and there remained to his death. His time he spent in Prayer, Meditation, and such Divine exercises, and did seek by all means to dissuade men from the studie of Magicks.

The Famous History, &c.

Thus liued he somme two years space in that Cell, neither comming forth, his meat and drinke he received in at a window, and at that windowe he did discouer with those that came to him, his grabe he digged with his owen nailes, and was laid there when he dyed. Thus was the Life and Death of this famous Frater, who liued most part of his life a Magician, and dyed a true penitent Friar, and an Anchoret.

azionisti e i partiti di sinistra sono stati riconosciuti come legittimi e si è quindi rivotato per la costituzionalità della legge. Il voto ha avuto un esito netto: 171 voti a favore, 131 voti contro. La legge ha quindi avuto il via libera. La legge ha avuto un esito netto: 171 voti a favore, 131 voti contro. La legge ha quindi avuto il via libera.

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